

## **British Values at Oxford Spires Academy**

The Department for Education states that all schools have a duty to promote British Values to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. These involve 'democracy', the 'rule of law', 'individual liberty', 'mutual respect', and 'tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs'.

At OSA we recognise not only the importance of allowing students to flourish academically but we also embrace our wider role in preparing them for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum. Part of our role in that preparation is ensuring that we promote and reinforce British Values to our students. British Values at OSA are embedded within our curriculum (please see curriculum booklets). Other ways we celebrate the British Values can be seen below.

### **Democracy – a culture built upon freedom and equality, where everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities**

- Student voice
- Leadership opportunities
- Student council
- Safeguarding Group
- Influencing lessons by putting hand up to speak
- Student elections – Head boy/Head girl
- Making decisions together - Group work – agreeing on someone to feedback answers

### **Rule of Law – The need for rules to make a happy, safe and secure environment to be in.**

- Behaviour Policy / Code of conduct for staff – mirror society's laws
- Understanding rules and why they are important – assemblies and tutor times
- Celebration of rewards
- Close work with Safer Schools Police Officer / visits from Fire Brigade
- Assemblies with a focus on the law – consent/upskirting.
- School Health Nurse interventions
- Assemblies and productions around CSE and CDE

### **Tolerance – recognising and understanding that we don't all share the same beliefs and values. Respecting the values, ideas and beliefs of others whilst not imposing our own values.**

- Creating an environment where discussions about sensitive issues will be controlled and structured
- Recognise that it is unacceptable to dismiss the beliefs and opinions of anyone
- Texts in the library to reflect a variety of cultures and countries.
- Christmas lunches / Eid
- On-site prayer room
- Cowley Carnival participation
- Celebration of culture through House Events – Dance and Drama

### **Individual Liberty – Protection of your rights and the right of others you work with**

- Opportunities for students to develop confidence and self-esteem through tutor time activities
- Strong anti-bullying culture
- Understanding of E-Safety through tutor times and PSHE
- Wide range of extra-curricular activities to choose from
- Teaching of growth mindset principles (Mental Health Lead and Mental Health First Aider in school)

### **Respect**

- The core of our school ethos and modelled by students and staff alike
- Competitive situations through the House system
- Everyone is entitled to their opinion as long as it does not promote extremism
- Everyone is entitled to a voice within the classroom
- Students are taught to listen to others as they would like to be listened to.
- BeKindOSA campaign